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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

Nang T. Tran; Arne B.

Confirmation No.

6822

Boberg; Douglas R.

Plourde; William R.

Qualls; and Edward L.

Schneider

Serial No.:

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Maurina T. Rachuba

Group Art Unit:

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Docket No.:

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AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed December 5, 2003, the period of response for which runs through March 5, 2004, please amend the application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.